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**NORHAM & ISLANDSHIRES RURAL
DISTRICT**

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1966

NORHAM AND ISLANDSHIRES RURAL DISTRICT

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1966

To the Chairman and Members of the Norham & Islandshires Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of Norham & Islandshires Rural District Council for the year 1966.

The report is presented in its customary form, which lists first of all, the general and vital statistics of the district.

It will be seen that the number of births was almost the same as in the previous year and that the birth rate is thus, rather less than the national average. There was, unfortunately, one infant death during the year.

The total number of deaths was however, a little less than in the previous year and the death rate was about that of the national level. The majority of the deaths were due to cardio vascular causes and vascular lesions of the nervous system.

There is little to report concerning infectious diseases. A few cases of measles were notified and it is satisfactory to report that there were no cases of tuberculosis during the year.

The immunisation and vaccination rates of the district are satisfactory. There can now be very few children who are not adequately protected against the serious infectious diseases and it is important that these levels be maintained.

Mr. Halley lists the sanitary circumstances of the district. Generally these are satisfactory.

There is a good water supply throughout the district and the sewerage disposal works in the district are working well. It is noted that a decision about East Ord will be made soon.

Housing throughout the district is good and calls for little comment. The steady number of Improvement Grants continues to help to raise the housing standards in the area.

The standards of food hygiene are generally good and in a holiday area such as this, it is most important that they should be so.

This will be my last report to you. I am leaving the district to take up another appointment, and before doing so, I wish to express to all members of the Council my very sincere thanks for the interest and courtesy which I have always received. I would also like to express my thanks to my colleagues on the Council staff and in particular, Mr. Armstrong, for his very ready help during the time I have worked here. I will be leaving the district with the very happiest of memories.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

John McDonnell

Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL STATISTICS

The area of the district was 47,011 acres.

The number of inhabited houses was 1,329 and the number of new houses completed during the year was 16.

The rateable value was £92,381 and the sum represented by a penny rate was £356.

The estimated mid-year population was 3,850 and this figure was taken when calculating the birth and death rate.

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	22	19	41
Illegitimate	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>
Totals	<u>24</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>44</u>
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population			11.42
Crude Birth Rate multiplied by Comparability Factor			14.38
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births			6.81
<u>Still Births</u>			
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Totals	-	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and still births			22.22
Total live and still births			45
<u>Infant Deaths (deaths under one year)</u>			
Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Totals	-	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>Infant Mortality Rates</u>			
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births			22.72
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births			24.39
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births			-
<u>Neo-natal Mortality Rate</u>			
Deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births			-
<u>Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate</u>			
Deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births			-
<u>Perinatal Mortality Rate</u>			
Stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births			22.22
<u>Maternal Mortality (including abortion)</u>			
Number of deaths			-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births			-

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Males</u> 24	<u>Females</u> 24	<u>Total</u> 48
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the population			12.46
Crude Death Rate multiplied by Comparability Factor			11.46
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis			-
Deaths from Other Puerperal Causes			-
Deaths from Cancer			6

CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	-	-	-
Tuberculosis (Other)	-	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	-	1
" " Lung, Bronchus	2	1	3
" " Breast	-	-	-
" " Uterus	-	-	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	-	2	2
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	-	-
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	6	9	15
Coronary Disease, Angina	6	4	10
Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	-	1
Other Heart Disease	4	2	6
Other Circulatory Disease	1	-	1
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	1	1
Bronchitis	1	-	1
Other diseases of Respiratory System	-	-	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations	-	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	3	4
Motor Vehicle Accidents	-	1	1
All Other Accidents	1	-	1
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide and Operations of War	-	-	-
Totals	<u>24</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>48</u>

INFANT MORTALITY

<u>Place of Death</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Cause of Death</u>
Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle upon Tyne	9 months	Hypostatic Pneumonia

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Scarlet Fever	-
Whooping Cough	-
Diphtheria	-
Measles	8
Pneumonia	-
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	-
Enteric Fever	-
Erysipelas	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-
Dysentery	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-
Smallpox	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-
Food Poisoning	-
Encephalitis	-

TUBERCULOSIS

There were no notifications of Tuberculosis during the year.

IMMUNISATIONNorth No. 1

Primary Immunisations								Secondary (Reinforcing) Injections							
	Under 1	1	2	3	4-7	8-16	Total	Under 1	1	2	3	4-7	8-16	Total	
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	11	19	
Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus	129	165	16	1	4	2	317	-	7	177	15	26	12	237	
Diphtheria and Tetanus	-	-	-	2	2	7	11	-	-	51	9	283	35	378	
Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	
Total	129	165	16	3	6	13	332	-	7	228	24	317	61	637	

SMALLPOX VACCINATIONNorth No. 1

Number Vaccinated during Period					Number Re-vaccinated				
Under 1	1	2-4	5-15	Total	Under 1	1	2-4	5-15	Total
64	142	52	14	272	-	-	2	50	52

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATIONNorth No. 1 and 2 Areas

The following table shows the number of persons vaccinated against poliomyelitis during the year ended 31st December, 1966.

	<u>Number of Persons</u>
3 doses - Oral Vaccine	763
Booster dose oral	1,355

B.C.G. VACCINATIONSNorth No. 1

Berwick Borough	222
Belford R.D.	78
Glendale R.D.	63
Norham & Islandshires R.D.	-
Total	<u>363</u>

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT1966To the Chairman and Members of the Norham & Islandshires Rural District
Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present the Public Health Inspector's Annual Report for 1966.

The duties of the previous Public Health Inspector terminated on 30th November, 1966, and I was acting Public Health Inspector from 1st December to the 31st December. It has been necessary to give estimates for certain items of information within this return as the full details are not available.

WATER SUPPLIES

The Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company operate and maintain the mains services within the District. Samples of water have been regularly taken at widespread points within the District. The resulting analysis have been excellent in practically all cases.

SEWERAGE

The Sewerage disposal works at Scremerston, Cornhill and Donaldson's Lodge have operated satisfactorily throughout the year and reports from the Northumbrian River Authority on samples of effluent have been very good.

The amended report from the District Council's consulting engineer for East Ord Sewerage Scheme to include either a partial treatment plant or extended aeration plant is expected early in 1967.

Details of the amended site for the new sewerage treatment works at Horncliffe have now been received and the final report from the District Council's consulting engineers will be obtained when a final decision has been made on the type of plant to be provided at East Ord.

Septic tanks giving partial treatment in villages within the District are being regularly cleansed and maintained.

PLANS

79 plans were deposited during the year together with the necessary applications under the Town and Country Planning Act and/or the Building Regulations. A good many of the applications were

amended to satisfy the Northumberland County Planning Department, but only two were refused permission on planning grounds.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

One part-time Rodent Operator is employed by the Council. Warfarin continues to be the sole bait used and gives most satisfactory results.

The sewers of every village have been treated and there has been no evidence of infestation. In general, throughout the district during the year, the number of rats in evidence have been minimal. Details are appended below:-

Properties other than Sewers	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district	1,788	136
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	42	3
(b) Total number of properties infested by (1) Rats	23	2
(11) Mice	Nil	Nil
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	210	107
(b) Number infested by (1) Rats	17	8
(11) Mice	Nil	Nil

SEWERS

There were no infestations of Sewers by rats during the year.

WATER SAMPLES

Collected for Analysis

	Total	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Chemical	-	-	-
Bacteriological	49	47	2

HOUSING

Number of new houses completed during 1966

(a) By the District Council	10
(b) By private persons	6
Total	<u>16</u>

STATISTICS FOR 1966

Total number of inhabited houses in District	1329
Total number of houses owned by Local Authority	313

CLOSING AND DEMOLITION

1. Houses demolished in Clearance Areas	Nil
2. Houses demolished not in Clearance Areas	13
3. Houses closed not demolished	Nil
4. Other houses permanently discontinued as dwellings	9

REPAIRS

Houses made fit by informal action	Nil
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CLEARANCE PROGRAMME

Number of unfit houses in Clearance Programme remaining to be dealt with at end of year	6
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PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Number of privy closets in District Council area at end of year	25
-----------------------------------------------------------------	----

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS(1) Discretionary

(a) Applications submitted to Local Authority during year	12
(b) Applications rejected	-
(c) Applications approved	12
(d) Approximate average grant approved per house	£392
(e) Total number of houses approved for grant since inception of scheme	289

(2) Standard

	<u>During the</u> <u>year</u>	<u>Total to</u> <u>date</u>
(a) Number of separate houses for which grants have been made	2	22

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

Inspections were made to the two licenced caravan sites in the district and both continue to be first class establishments and very well run.

INSPECTION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

A total of 131 visits were made to the licenced slaughterhouse of R. G. Foreman & Son, Norham, to inspect meat. In addition, other inspections were made concerning food examination.

There were four slaughtermen licenced during the year.

The number of animals slaughtered, examined and inspected were:-

<u>Bullocks/Heifers</u>	<u>Sheep/lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
119	132	-

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD STUFFS CONDEMNED

Beef	-
Mutton (home killed)	-
Tinned goods (cooked ham)	42 lbs.
<u>Total weight of foodstuffs condemned</u>	<u>42 lbs.</u>

A very dirty milk bottle was delivered to a consumer within the Rural District during December. A reprimand was sent to the bottling establishment concerned and an undertaking received that everything possible would be done to prevent a similar occurrence.

MILK SUPPLIES - Brucella Abortus

Number of samples of raw milk examined	Nil
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THE LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS, 1963

Number of egg pasteurisation plants within the District	Nil
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POULTRY INSPECTION

(1) Number of poultry processing premises within the district	Nil
---------------------------------------------------------------	-----

ANTHRAX

A confirmed case of Anthrax occurred in January on a farm within the Rural District. In April a second case arose at the same farm. The Police dealt with both carcasses and took precautionary measures.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

Trade Group	No. of Premises	Premises Complying with Reg. 16	No. of premises to which Reg. 19 applies	No. of premises complying with Reg. 19
Bakeries	1	1	1	1
Bakers shops	1	1	1	1
Butchers shops	1	1	1	1
Cafe/restaurants	8	8	8	8
Grocers shops	10	10	1	1
Hotels/Guest Houses	16	16	16	16
Hostel	1	1	1	1
Mead factory	1	1	1	1
Public Houses/licensed premises	8	8	8	8
School kitchens	6	6	6	6
Slaughterhouses	1	1	1	1
Totals	54	54	45	45

ICE-CREAM

Number of premises manufacturing ice-cream

Nil

Satisfactory inspections have been carried out of ice-cream vendor's vans, travelling shops and premises selling ice-cream. No samples have been taken.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Number of factories throughout area

27

Inspections carried out

27

Contraventions found

-

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963REGISTRATION, GENERAL INSPECTIONS AND PERSONS EMPLOYED

Class of Premises	Number of Premises Registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	No, of Registered premises receiving a general inspection during year	Persons Employed
Offices	-	3	3	8
Retail shops	-	10	15	14
Wholesale Shops, warehouses	-	-	-	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	7	4	13
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-	-
Totals	-	20	22	35
TOTAL MALES				13
TOTAL FEMALES				22

Number of visits of all kinds to registered premises

27

REFUSE COLLECTION

At present the Refuse Collection Service is weekly in some villages and fortnightly elsewhere. Disposal is to two semi-controlled tips, one on the East Side of the District and the other on the West.

During the ensuing year, consideration will be given to a scheme for a weekly collection throughout the district, except for outlying farms which would be served as at present. To effect this the present 12 cubic-yard vehicle would be replaced by a 'compressor-type' wagon to give a much larger carrying capacity. Alternatively a 'paper-sack system' will be considered for use with the present type of vehicle to cut down the time spent on collection per house.

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS 1928 and 1936

Forty Petrol Licenses were issued on 1st April, 1966. Inspections were made to the premises concerned.

NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR

Complaints and nuisances	10
Disinfection and disinfection	1
Factories	27
Food Premises - Hygiene (General) Regulations	35
Houses - Insanitary	10
Ice-Cream Premises	10
Rodent Control	50
Slaughterhouse - Meat Inspection	131
Caravan Sites	10
Water Supplies	2
Notifiable Diseases	-
Improvement Grants	28
Building Byelaws	92
Storage of Petroleum	50
Town and Country Planning Act	40

Refuse Collection and Disposal	20
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.	27

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

D.S. HALLEY

Public Health Inspector

52, Ravensdowne,
Berwick-upon-Tweed.

26th May, 1966.

